Chess Room Newsletter #1003

Gens Una Sumus!

<< Previous

Next >>

Newsletter #1003

January 22, 2022

Table of Contents

- TNM Report
- Tony's Teasers
- Events/Class Schedule
- Scholastic Chess Bulletin
- FM Paul Whitehead's Column
- GM Nick de Firmian's Column
- Solutions
- Submit your piece or feedback

2022 IM Walter Shipman TNM Round 3 Report

by Abel Talamantez

Round 3 of the TNM turned out to be somewhat of an early birthday present for Jayden Xu on the top board, who celebrated his 15th birthday on board 1 earning a hard fought draw against IM Elliott Winslow. This has been a great tournament for Jayden thus far, winning his first two games and showing nerves of steel against the very cagey veteran in round 3. This draw opened the door for Edward Lewis to take over sole 1st place after a win over Kayven Riese. Lewis leads with 3/3, with 4 players at 2.5 including Winslow, Xu, NM Michael Walder and Luke Widjaja.

Jayden Xu draws IM Elliott Winslow on board 1. Judit Sztaray hard at work entering the PGN's of theTNM scoresheets.

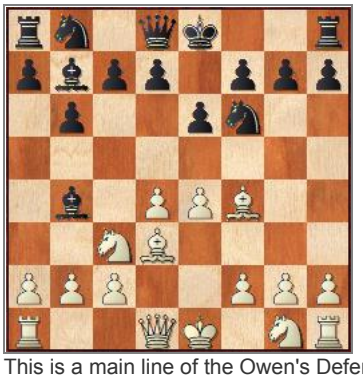
In the under 1800 section, Sebby Suarez won on board 6 against Nursultan Uzakbaev to stay perfect. Ashwin Vaidyanathan defeated Albert Starr to keep pace with Sebby, and both lead the section with 3/3. Strong competition is only a half point behind, including Romeo Barreyro, Dean Guo, and Anton Maliev,

Here are some games from the round, annotated by GM Nick de Firmian.

(1) Grange,Matthew - Stallworth,Deandre (1294) [B00]

2nd Shipman mem TNM: u1800 San Francisco (3.21), 18.01.2022

1.d4 b6 Offfering to play the Owen's Defense after 2. e4 Bb7. Matthew sticks to his London System plan for the moment, but then shortly transposes. **2.Bf4 Bb7 3.Nc3 e6 4.e4 Bb4 5.Bd3 Nf6**



This is a main line of the Owen's Defense with White having played the unusual move Bf4. Black has full equalilty here. **6.Bg5** [6.f3!?] **6...h6 7.Bxf6 Qxf6 8.Nf3 0-0 9.0-0 Ba6** [9...c5 hitting the center would be more thematic] **10.Ne2 Bxd3 11.Qxd3 Qd8** Black is losing a little time with 9..Ba6 and this move and White now has the opening edge due to his center. **12.Rad1 d5 13.e5 Be7 14.Ne1?!** [14.Nf4! brings the forces forward] **14...c5 15.c3 Nc6 16.f4 cxd4 17.Nxd4 Nxd4 18.cxd4 a6** [18...Rc8] **19.Rc1** [19.f5 exf5 20.Rxf5 Qd7 is about even] **19...Qd7! 20.Rf2 b5 21.Rfc2 Rac8 22.g4 f6 23.exf6 Bxf6 24.Kg2 Bh4 25.Nf3 Rxc2+ 26.Rxc2**

26...Rxf4!= This fine tactic siezes the moment to make use of the loose White kingside. The piece offer is temptint to White. **27.Nxh4?** He couldn't resist, but he shouldn't take the bishop. [27.Qg6! Bf6 28.h3= Bxd4?! 29.g5!? Rf5! 30.gxh6 Bf6=] **27...Rxg4+ 28.Kh3 e5!-+**

29.Nf5 something had to be done against the deadly discovered check. Not [29.Qf5? Rxh4+] **29...Rxd4! 30.Qf1 Rf4** winning the piece back with three extra pawns and a fierce attack. White is toast. **31.Qd3 Qxf5+** Choosing a sure winning ending. 31...Rxf5 is also very strong **32.Qxf5 Rxf5 33.Kg3 Kf7 34.Rc7+ Ke6 35.h4 e4 36.Rxg7 e3 37.Rg8 Ke5 38.Kh2** [38.Re8+ Kd4 39.Re6 Re5 is a simple finish] **38...Kd4 39.Rg4+ Kd3 40.Rg3 Kd2 41.Rg1 e2 42.Kg2 e1Q 43.Rxe1 Kxe1** A fine game from Deandre! **0-1**

(2) Guo,Dean (1554) - Reed,Paul (1474) [C52]

2nd Shipman mem TNM: u1800 San Francisco (3.14), 18.01.2022

1.e4 e5 2.Nf3 Nc6 3.Bc4 Bc5 4.b4 Dean plays in the swashbuckling style of the great 19th Century players. He follows the lead of Captain Evans with this gambit. **4...Bxb4 5.c3 Ba5 6.d4 exd4 7.0-0 d6 8.Qb3 Qf6** 8...Qe7 is safer **9.Bg5** [9.cxd4 has a lot of point since Black can't take on d4 with f7 in need of protection] **9...Qg6 10.e5!?** perhaps hasty, but certainly aggressive **10...h6** [10...dxe5 11.Re1 e4 12.Nbd2 e3 is a sharp and complicated defense] **11.Bf4 dxe5 12.Nxe5 Nxe5**

13.Re1! nicely delaying the capture to get the best piece placement. 13...f6 would leave the g8 knight hanging **13...Bb6 14.Rxe5+ Ne7 15.Nd2 Qf6?!** [15...dxc3 16.Qxc3 Qf6] **16.Rae1** [16.Bg3] **16...0-0!** Good defense! Getting the king out of the center just in time. **17.Rxe7 Qxf4 18.Bxf7+**

18...Kh8! [18...Rxf7 19.Rxf7 Qxd2 *(19...Qxf7 20.Re8+ Kh7 21.Qxf7)* 20.Re8+ Kh7 21.Rxg7+ Kxg7 22.Qg8+ Kf6 23.Qf8+ Kg6 24.Qg8+ looks like a draw] **19.Nf3 dxc3 20.Bg6 Bg4?!** [20...Qf6! is a nice edge for Black in this sharp game] **21.Qxc3** Now the game is about even. Black needs to defend mate on g7 so 21...Qf6 would be good. **21...Bd4?** Oh no! A miscalculation in the complications. **22.Qxd4** [Perhaps Black was hoping for 22.Nxd4? Qxf2+ 23.Kh1 Qf1+ 24.Rxf1 Rxf1#] **22...Bxf3** Black was losing a piece going into the endgame anyway. Paul saw 23. Qxg7 mate was coming and resigned. A highly entertaining game in the style of the romantic era players! **1-0**

(3) Xu,Jayden (1765) - Winslow,Elliott (2251) [A61]

2nd Shipman mem TNM: 1800+ San Francisco (3.1), 18.01.2022

Jayden Xu plays an opponent 500 point higher rated. A severe test. **1.d4 Nf6 2.c4 e6 3.Nf3 c5 4.d5 exd5 5.cxd5 d6 6.Nc3 g6 7.Bf4 Bg7 8.h3** Jayden has a system in mind. Theoretically sharper is [8.Qa4+ Bd7 9.Qb3] **8...0-0 9.e3 a6** [9...Ne8 10.Be2 Nd7 11.0-0 Ne5 12.Nd2 Rb8?! *(12...a6!? 13.a4 b6!?; 12...Bd7; 12...f5)* 13.a4 b6 14.Bg3 f5 15.Rb1 Nc7 16.Nb5 Nxb5 17.axb5 Bd7 18.f4 Nf7 19.Qb3 a6 20.bxa6 b5 21.Qa3 Qb6 22.b4 Ra8 23.bxc5 dxc5 24.Nc4 Qxa6 25.Qxa6 Rxa6 26.Ne5 Rd6 27.Nxd7 Rxd7 28.Rfc1 c4 29.Rxb5 Nd6 30.Rb6 Re8 31.Bf2 Bd4 32.exd4 Rxe2

33.Be1 Ne4 34.Bb4 c3 35.Bxc3 Nxc3 36.Rxc3 Re4 37.Rc4 Kf7 38.g3 Rxd5 39.Rb7+ Re7 40.Rxe7+ Kxe7 41.Kf2 Ra5 42.g4 Kd6 43.Kg3 Ra3+ 44.Kh4 Rf3 45.d5 Kxd5 46.Rc7 Rxf4 47.Kg5 Ra4 48.Rxh7 fxg4 49.Rh4 Ra3 50.hxg4 Ra4 51.Rh6 Ke6 52.Rxg6+ Kf7 53.Kh6 Ra1 54.Rg7+ Kf8 55.g5 Ra6+ 56.Kh7 Ra5 57.Rg8+ Ke7 58.g6 Ra1 59.Kg7 Ra7 60.Rf8 Ke6+ 61.Kh8 Kd5 1-0 (61) Niemann,H (2439)-Makarian,R (2386) Wch u16 (7), Mumbai 2019] **10.a4 Nh5 11.Bh2 f5 12.Be2 f4 13.0-0** [So thought 13.Qd2 was inaccurate but won anyway: 13...Bh6 14.e4 Bg7 15.0-0 Nd7 16.Ne1 Ndf6 17.Nd3 Qe8 18.Rfe1 g5 19.e5 dxe5 20.d6 Kh8 21.Bd1 g4 22.Rxe5 Qg6 23.Nxf4 Nxf4 24.Bxf4 gxh3 25.Rg5 Qf7 26.Be5 Bd7 27.Bb3 Be6 28.Bxe6 Qxe6 29.Re1 Qf7 30.Nd5 Nh5 31.Bxg7+ Nxg7 32.Re7 1-0 (32) So,W (2762)-Van Wely,L (2667) Wijk aan Zee 2015 CBM 165 [So,Wesley]] **13...Qe7 14.Nd2 fxe3 15.Bxh5 exd2**

16.Bf3N [Predecessor: 16.Bg4 Bxg4 17.Qxg4 Rf5 18.Rad1 Bxc3 19.bxc3 Rxd5 20.Qf4 Qe2 21.Qe3 Qxe3 22.fxe3 Nc6 23.e4 Rd3 24.Rf3 Rxf3 25.gxf3 b5 26.Rxd2 bxa4 27.Bxd6 Rd8 28.f4 Na5 29.e5 Nc4 30.Ra2 Nxd6 31.exd6 Rxd6 32.Rxa4 Kf7 33.Ra5 Rc6 34.Kf2 Ke6 35.Ke3 Kd5 36.Kd3 Rb6 37.h4 Rc6 38.c4+ Kd6 39.Ke4 Ke6 40.Ke3 Kf5 41.Kf3 h5 42.Ke3 Kg4 43.Ke4 Rf6 44.Rxc5 Rxf4+ 45.Kd5 Kxh4 Gullaksen,E (2349)-Beckett,C (2165) London 2018 0-1] **16...Nd7 17.Qxd2 Ne5 18.Be2 g5 19.f4 gxf4 20.Bxf4 Bf5**

Black has developed well and has a good Benoni positon. Yet White has no weakenesses and need not be worse. **21.Bh6 Qh4 22.Bxg7 Kxg7 23.Qf4 Qxf4 24.Rxf4 Bc2 25.Raf1 Rxf4 26.Rxf4 Rc8 27.Kf2=** The ending is quite equal. **27...c4** This is ok but now the pawn is stuck on a light square and the white king can use d4. [27...Re8!?=; 27...Ng6=; 27...Rb8=] **28.Ke3 Rc5 29.Kd2 Bg6**

30.b4! Rc7? [30...cxb3 31.Rb4 Rc7 *(31...b5 32.axb5 axb5 33.Rxb3 Nc4+=; 31...Kf6 32.Rxb3 Nc4+ 33.Bxc4 Rxc4 34.Rxb7 Ke5=)*] **31.Ke3?=** [31.a5!+/- White controls the dark squares on the queenside.] **31...Bd3 32.Bg4 Ng6 33.Rf2 b6 34.Bh5 Re7+ 35.Kd4 Re5 36.Bg4 Re7 37.Bc8 Ra7 38.Bg4 Ne5 39.Rf4 Bg6 40.Be2 Rc7 41.Ke3 Be8 42.Kd4 a5?! 43.b5?!** [43.bxa5 bxa5 44.Rf1 Rb7 45.Ne4 Nf7 46.Bh5 is good for White] **43...Bg6 44.Ke3 Rc5 45.Kd4 Bd3 46.Bh5 Rc7 47.Ke3 Bg6 48.Be2 Bd3 49.Bh5 Re7 50.Kd4 Nd7 51.Bg4 Nc5 52.Bd1 Re1 53.Rg4+ Kf6 54.Rf4+ Ke7 55.Rg4 Kf7 56.Rf4+ Kg7 57.Rg4+ Kf6** draw agreed. A great achievement for Jayden! **1/2-1/2**

(4) Hack,Richard (1500) - Maliev,Anton (1429) [B35]

2nd Shipman mem TNM: u1800 San Francisco (3.15), 18.01.2022

1.e4 c5 2.Nf3 Nc6 3.d4 cxd4 4.Nxd4 g6 5.Nc3 Bg7 6.Be3 Nf6 7.Bc4 0-0 8.Bb3 a6 This is unusual in this positon. Black usually does better playing in the center with 8...d6 **9.f3 Na5?!**

10.Qd2?! White misses an idea of the great Bobby Fisher - [10.e5! Ne8? *(10...Nxb3 11.exf6 Nxa1 12.fxg7 Kxg7 13.Qxa1* is very good for White*)* 11.Bxf7+!! Kxf7 12.Ne6!

wins the queen as taking the knight with the king gets checkmated. See Fischer's famous win against Reshevesky with this idea.] **10...Nxb3 11.Nxb3** [11.axb3!] **11...b5 12.0-0-0 Qc7 13.Bh6 d6 14.Bxg7 Kxg7 15.Qd4 Be6 16.g4 Kg8 17.h4 h5 18.gxh5 Nxh5 19.Rhg1 Rfc8 20.Qd2 Bxb3 21.axb3 Kh7?+-** [21...e6!? 22.Qxd6 Qa7+/- could distract White from the attack] **22.Nd5 Qb7 23.Nf4?!** still some advantage, but it's letting Black get away. [Of all the sharper and stronger continuations, most to the point is 23.f4! e6 24.f5! exd5 25.fxg6+ fxg6 26.Rxg6!! is a mating attack (if taken) 26...Ng7 27.Rdg1 Rc7 28.exd5+- (Qg5, h5-h6)] **23...Nxf4?** Back in the hole. [23...Rc5! 24.Rg5 Rac8 25.Nxh5 Rxc2+ 26.Qxc2 Rxc2+ 27.Kxc2 f6! 28.Nxf6+ exf6 29.Rgd5 Qc8+ and into h3; White is better, but Black is getting annoying.] **24.Qxf4** White is ready to run again. **24...f6 25.h5 Qc7** [25...g5 26.Qf5+] **26.hxg6+ Kg7 27.Rg2** [27.Qd2! Rh8 28.Rh1 Raf8 29.Rh7+! Rxh7 30.gxh7 is totally won] **27...Qa5?!** [27...Rh8 28.Qf5 Qc8 put up more fight.] **28.Kb1 Rh8 29.Qf5! Qc7 30.Qd5** [30.Qe6! Raf8 31.Rgg1 Rh2 32.c3 and Rh1 is the end.] **30...Raf8** [30...e5!? (still pretty lost)] **31.f4 Rh4 32.f5**

Richard has done a pretty good job of locking up a won game! [32.Qe6!] **32...Qc5 33.Qxc5** [33.Qb7! Re8 *(33...Qe5 34.Re2)* 34.Rgd2] **33...dxc5 34.Re2 Re8 35.Rd7 Kh6 36.e5 Kg5 37.g7 Kxf5 38.exf6** [38.Rxe7! Rg8 39.Rf2+ would be the coup de grace.] **38...Kxf6**

39.Rg2? After all that, this slip-up! [39.Rdxe7!; 39.Rexe7!] **39...Rg8+/=** Now it's more drawn than won. **40.Ra7 Rxg7** [40...Rh1+ 41.Ka2 Rxg7 42.Rxa6+ Kf7 43.Rxg7+ Kxg7 44.Ra5 Rh2=] **41.Rxa6+ Kf7 42.Rf2+ Ke8** Now White just has to do something -- anything -- to provide for the safety of his king. **43.Rf5?? Rh1+ 44.Ka2 Rgg1 45.b4 c4** [45...Ra1+ 46.Kb3 Rh3+ 47.c3 c4+ 48.Kc2 Rh2+ is a few moves faster] **46.b3 c3** White

runs out of checks and it's mate on a1. A fine game by Richard until some slips at the end. **0-1**

SwissSys Standings. 2nd Shipman Memorial Tuesday Night Marathon: 1800+

#	Name	ID	Rating	Rd 1	Rd 2	Rd 3	Rd 4	Rd 5	Rd 6	Rd 7	Total
1	Edward Lewis	12601629	2017	W22 (w)	W11 (b)	W8 (w)					3.0
2	Elliott Winslow	10363365	2251	W18 (b)	W7 (w)	D5 (b)					2.5
3	Michael Walder	10345120	2085	D4 (b)	W9 (w)	W13 (b)					2.5
4	Luke Widjaja	16010621	1792	D3 (w)	W12 (b)	W17 (w)					2.5
5	Jayden Xu	15918365	1765	W17 (w)	W10 (b)	D2 (w)			H---		2.5
6	David Askin	13776967	2035	W21 (w)	L8 (b)	W19 (w)		H---			2.0
7	Kristian Clemens	13901075	1934	W15 (w)	L2 (b)	W20 (w)				H---	2.0
8	Kayven Riese	12572270	1906	W20 (b)	W6 (w)	L1 (b)					2.0
9	Christophe Bambou	12734479	2106	D13 (w)	L3 (b)	W21 (w)					1.5
10	William Gray	13217831	1971	W23 (b)	L5 (w)	D15 (b)					1.5
11	James J Mahooti	12621393	1867	W24 (w)	L1 (w)	H---					1.5
12	Guy Argo	12517167	1856	H---	L4 (w)	W22 (b)					1.5
13	Ranen Lardent	12614986	1827	D9 (b)	X16	L3 (w)					1.5
14	Jim Ratliff	11163831	1719	H---	H---	H---					1.5
15	Joel Carron	16600505	1671	L7 (b)	B---	D10 (w)					1.5
16	Yusheng Xia	13471910	2294	H---	F13	H---					1.0
17	Lucas Lesniewski	17039584	2025	L5 (b)	W23 (w)	L4 (b)					1.0
18	Fredrick Dutter	12343420	1900	L2 (w)	D21 (b)	D23 (w)					1.0
19	Abel Talamantez	12465386	1804	H---	H---	L6 (b)					1.0
20	Joshua Lamstein	15487526	1605	L8 (w)	X24	L7 (b)					1.0
21	Adam Mercado	16571026	1774	L6 (b)	D18 (w)	L9 (b)					0.5
22	Glenn Kaplan	12680193	1740	L1 (b)	H---	L12 (w)					0.5
23	Charles Faulkner	12559529	1720	L10 (w)	L17 (b)	D18 (b)					0.5
24	Gaziz Makhanov	16828914	1917	L11 (b)	F20	U---					0.0

SwissSys Standings. 2nd Shipman Memorial Tuesday Night Marathon: u1800

#	Name	ID	Rating	Rd 1	Rd 2	Rd 3	Rd 4	Rd 5	Rd 6	Rd 7	Total
1	Sebastian Suarez	16875347	1565	W24 (w)	W21 (b)	W9 (w)					3.0
2	Ashwin Vaidyanathan	30205719	1444	W13 (w)	W7 (b)	W8 (w)			H---	H---	3.0
3	Romeo Barreyro	17018168	1631	W16 (w)	D15 (b)	W6 (w)					2.5
4	Dean Guo	30257083	1554	W25 (b)	H---	W15 (w)					2.5
5	Anton Maliev	30250562	1429	H---	X18	W14 (b)					2.5
6	Stephen Parsons	16566932	1629	W17 (b)	W10 (w)	L3 (b)					2.0
7	Adam Ginzberg	30268083	1576	W12 (b)	L2 (w)	W22 (b)					2.0
8	Albert Starr	12844781	1522	W31 (w)	X22	L2 (b)					2.0
9	Nursultan Uzakbaev	17137317	1521	X26	W28 (w)	L1 (b)					2.0
10	Matt Long	13377410	1519	W27 (w)	L6 (b)	W24 (b)					2.0
11	Yorgos Tsolias	17266862	1512	H---	H---	X26					2.0
12	Benjamin Anderson	30235937	1172	L7 (w)	X30	W19 (b)					2.0
13	Ambrogino Giusti	30223021	unr.	L2 (b)	X23	X21					2.0
14	Richard Hack	12796129	1500	W23 (b)	H---	L5 (w)					1.5
15	Paul Reed	13373197	1474	W29 (b)	D3 (w)	L4 (b)					1.5
16	Deandre Stallworth	30255378	1294	L3 (b)	D29 (w)	W28 (b)					1.5
17	Jp Fairchild	30150098	1229	L6 (w)	W27 (b)	H---					1.5
18	Thomas Gu	17005685	958	H---	F5	W29 (b)					1.5
19	Nick Casares Jr	10424364	1600	L22 (w)	W31 (b)	L12 (w)					1.0
20	David R Olson	13913131	1400	L28 (b)	L26 (w)	X32					1.0
21	Simone Pagan Griso	17322263	1329	W32 (b)	L1 (w)	F13					1.0
22	Vittorio Banfi	30308530	1227	W19 (b)	F8	L7 (w)					1.0
23	Timothy Bayaraa	15616166	1149	L14 (w)	F13	W31 (b)					1.0
24	Danny Cao	16939797	1142	L1 (b)	X32	L10 (w)			H---	H---	1.0
25	Pratyush Hule	16317000	1104	L4 (w)	H---	H---					1.0

26	**Prasanna Chandramouli**	30279272	1002	F9	W20 (b)	F11					1.0
27	**Eli Chanoff**	12898987	993	L10 (b)	L17 (w)	B---					1.0
28	**Matthew Grange**	30403587	unr.	W20 (w)	L9 (b)	L16 (w)					1.0
29	**David Nichol**	12934283	982	L15 (w)	D16 (b)	L18 (w)					0.5
30	**Christian Brickhouse**	30261226	452	U---	F12	H---					0.5
31	**Richard Ahrens**	16953298	1091	L8 (b)	L19 (w)	L23 (w)					0.0
32	**Marcus Casaes**	30290420	unr.	L21 (w)	F24	F20					0.0

SwissSys Standings. 2nd Shipman Memorial Tuesday Night Marathon: Extra Games Shipman

#	Name	ID	Rating	Rd 1	Rd 2	Rd 3	Rd 4	Rd 5	Rd 6	Rd 7	Total
1	**Ranen Lardent**	12614986	1827	U---	W9 (w)	U---					1.0
2	**Abel Talamantez**	12465386	1804	W11 (b)	L3 (b)	U---					1.0
3	**Joshua Lamstein**	15487526	1605	U---	W2 (w)	U---					1.0
4	**Yorgos Tsolias**	17266862	1512	U---	U---	W14 (b)					1.0
5	**Daniel Wang**	15117223	1493	U---	U---	W12 (b)					1.0
6	**Anton Maliev**	30250562	1429	U---	W10 (w)	U---					1.0
7	**Benjamin Anderson**	30235937	1172	U---	W13 (b)	U---					1.0
8	**Judit Sztaray**	14708926	723	U---	W14 (b)	U---					1.0
9	**Joel Carron**	16600505	1671	U---	L1 (b)	U---					0.0
10	**Albert Starr**	12844781	1522	U---	L6 (b)	U---					0.0
11	**Nursultan Uzakbaev**	17137317	1521	L2 (w)	U---	U---					0.0
12	**Ashwin Vaidyanathan**	30205719	1444	U---	U---	L5 (w)			H---	H---	0.0
13	**Danny Cao**	16939797	1142	U---	L7 (w)	U---			H---	H---	0.0
14	**Ambrogino Giusti**	30223021	unr.	U---	L8 (w)	L4 (w)					0.0

Tony's Teasers

Tony is back and ready to challenge you to solve this problem: white to move and mate in 2

White to move and mate in 2. Kenneth Howard, 1904.

Mechanics' Institute Events Schedule

Don't Miss our Exciting Upcoming Events!!

The Mechanics' Institute will continue to hold regular and online events. Here is our upcoming schedule for players:

IM Walter Shipman Tuesday Night Marathon. January 4 - February 15, 2022, 6:30PM FIDE Rated. 7SS G/120;d5: https://www.milibrary.org/chess-tournaments/2nd-shipman-memorial-tuesday-night-marathon

Mechanics' Institute January Championship Quads. January 22, 2022, 3PM USCF Rated. 3RR G/30;d5: https://www.milibrary.org/chess-tournaments/mechanics-championship-quads

Henry Gross Memorial Championship. February 5, 2022, 10AM USCF Rated. 4SS G/45;d5: https://www.milibrary.org/chess-tournaments/21st-gross-championship-g45-person

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Scholastic Chess Bulletin

The scholastic news is covered in a dedicated publication:
Mechanics' Institute Scholastic Chess Bulletin

Fresh New
Scholastic Chess Bulletin #8 is out!

In this issue:

- 2021 National K-12 Grades Championships
- Monthly Scholastic In-Person Tournament - 2021 December Report
- Enrichment Highlight: Hoover Elementary
- December Chess Camps
- Understanding Tournaments: Colors
- Upcoming Tournament Schedule
- Tournament Results & Featured Games analyzed by GM Nick de Firmian

Please click the following LINK to read our latest edition.
Interested in reading the past issues? Click here to see the list of all issues.

All of us at Mechanics' Institute would like to thank you for your support of our scholastic chess programming.

FM Paul Whitehead

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The world is a chess board

We are back, with more wild tales from the world of chess. But, before we get on to the juicy stuff, I should mention that the legendary **Tata Steel Ma** underway. After four rounds the leader is Indian **GM Santosh Gujrathi Vidit** with 3.0 points. If you want to follow the action I strongly recommend the of **GM Jan Gustafsson** and **GM Peter Svidler** commenting for **Chess24**: https://chess24.com/en

They are simply the best.

It's now an open secret that World Champion **GM Magnus Carlsen** wants to push his rating over 2900. Many observers feel this is impossible, and as **Guardian** points out, he needs to score 9/13 at Tata Steel just to gain **one rating point**:

https://www.theguardian.com/sport/2022/jan/14/chess-magnus-carlsen-targets-all-time-rating-record-of-2900-at-wijk-aan-zee

Jobs in chess are scarce, but **Golden State Warriors** rookie **Jonathan Kuminga** has a vital position locked up. It's on him to carry super-star **Klay T** chess board around:

https://www.nbcsports.com/bayarea/warriors/jonathan-kuminga-carries-klay-thompsons-chess-board-part-rookie-duties

Chess sets are an endless source of inspiration for artists and designers. Maybe a concrete set(!) inspired by **Brutalism** will make you a tougher oppo

https://www.prnewswire.com/news-releases/concrete-chess-set-inspired-by-brutalist-architecture-launches-on-kickstarter-301462665.html

Chess and **Bitcoin**. Please don't ask me to explain **PowChess** to you, although it seems to be a way for its creators and users to make and gamble t earned dough:

https://coingeek.com/chess-on-bitcoin-meet-powchess/

Chess Chief is the name of a race horse. He won the **Tenacious Stakes** and the **New Orleans Classic** last year, and his dad is **Into Mischief**. If he **Tuesday Night Marathon** we'd all better watch out:

https://www.drf.com/news/chess-chief-make-move-louisiana-stakes-pegasus-world-cup

The hashtag **#ChessTok** on **TikTok** is trending with 198 million views and counting:

https://www.insider.com/chesstok-tiktok-chess-videos-viral-queens-gambit-2022-1

MI Chess Room Director **Abel Talamantez** tossed this one in, informing us that **Cincinnati Bengals** quarterback **Joe Burrow** knows the diagonals or almost as well as the plays on the field:

https://www.espn.com/blog/cincinnati-bengals/post/_/id/33682/why-bengals-qb-joe-burrow-has-kept-a-chessboard-by-his-locker-this-season

For politicians, this "**Putin** plays chess while we play checkers" thing never gets old:

https://krcrtv.com/news/connect-to-congress/rep-waltz-on-russia-putin-is-playing-chess-while-were-playing-checkers

Incredibly (for me), this year marks the **50th anniversary** of the historic **Fischer vs. Spassky** match in **Iceland**. A short prelude to what I'm sure are n celebrations to come:

https://www.washingtontimes.com/news/2022/jan/18/getting-on-jump-on-the-50th-anniversary-of-the-epi/

Over in Brazil super-**GM Henrique Mecking** claims to be the "Prophet of the Apocalypse":

https://www1.folha.uol.com.br/internacional/en/culture/2022/01/i-am-the-prophet-of-the-apocalypse-says-brazilian-1st-chess-grandmaster.shtml

Kazakhstan might be in the news for all the wrong reasons right now, but 17-year old **IM Bibi Assaubayeva** is the **Women's World Blitz Champion** back home:

https://www.inform.kz/en/culture-and-sport-minister-abayev-receives-world-chess-championship-bibisara-assaubayeva_a3887381

Finally, we make a full circle back to the Tata Steel Masters, where the official **Norwegian TV2** broadcast has invited a **convicted bank-robber** on as

https://www.outlookindia.com/sports/tata-steel-chess-tournament-broadcaster-invites-norwegian-bank-robber-as-guest-news-31960

Next week: more of the same!

Nick de Firmian's Column

Tata Steel Underway

Always one of the biggest events of the year, the traditional tournament in Wijk aan Zee (sponsored by Tata Steel) kicks off the 2022 chess season. Tl characters include the usual suspects – King Magnus, Fabiano Caruana, Giri, Duda, Karjakin. Mechanics' Institute members will be particularly interes our man Sam Shankland, who scored an invite to this prestigious event.

The early lead was a bit surprising as the Indian Santosh Vidit nosed ahead with victories over our Sam and Duda. Yet the pack is chasing and its earl below a great game from the champ, who took down the invincible Giri. Also below a game from Mamedyarov – we count the Shakh as a friend of the after his entertaining simul at the club.

(1) Carlsen,Magnus - Giri,Anish [E05]

Tata Steel, 16.01.2022

1.d4 Nf6 2.c4 e6 3.Nf3 d5 4.g3 Be7 5.Bg2 0-0 6.0-0 dxc4 7.Na3!?

After giving up the c4 pawn Magnus lets his a-pawns get doubled. **7...Bxa3 8.bxa3 Bd7 9.a4 Bc6 10.Ba3 Re8 11.Qc2 Nbd7 12.Rac1 a6 13.Qxc4 Nb Nxa4** Now this is a real gambit. White has the bishop pair and more central control for the pawn minus. **15.Qb3 Qd5?!**

16.Rxc6! Qxc6 forced **17.Ne5 Qb5 18.Qc2** with Rb1 coming Magnus will win the black b-pawn. Still he is the exchange down, though has good play f it. **18...Nd5?** The knight on a4 will now be loose and need protection for the next moves. Needed was 18...Nb6 to stay about even. **19.Rb1 Qa5 20.Bx 21.Rxb7** Bb4 trapping the queen is threatened. White is much better despite the exchange down with the powerful knight on e5. **21...c5 22.Qf5!** Now I over the the direct attack on the king. **22...Rf8 23.Nxf7 Qd8 24.dxc5 Qf6 25.Qxf6!** The correct path, trading into the ending. **25...gxf6 26.Nh6+ Kh8 2**

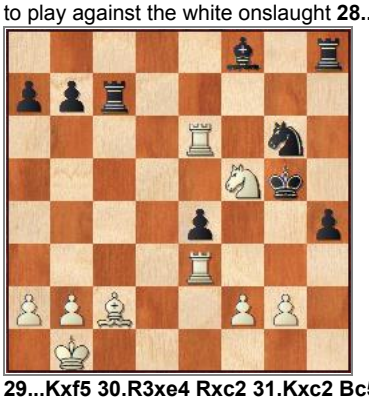
Black is still slightly ahead materially yet the white pieces dominate. The advanced c-pawn now ties down the black rooks. **27...Rfc8 28.c7 Nc3 29.Bb** 30.Bxf6#] **30.Nf7+ Kg7 31.Nd6** White wins back the exchange with a winning advantage. Magnus doesn't slip in such a position. **31...Kg6 32.Kf1 Nb5 34.a4 Nxc7 35.Bxd4 Ne6 36.Be3**

Two pawns down in a hopeless position, Giri resigned. A very creative game from the champ. **1-0**
(2) Mamedyarov,Shakhriyar - Duda,Jan-Krzysztof [D41]

Tata Steel, 18.01.2022

1.d4 Nf6 2.c4 e6 3.Nf3 d5 4.Nc3 c5 5.cxd5 cxd4 6.Qxd4 exd5 7.e4! This energetiv move gives White the opening edge. **7...dxe4 8.Qxd8+ Kxd8 9.N 10.Nxe6+ fxe6 11.Bg5 h6 12.0-0-0+ Ke7 13.Bxf6+ gxf6 14.Nxe4**

White has a little edge in the endgame but it gets tricky here. **14...f5 15.Ng3 h5!?** [15...Nc6] **16.Bc4 Nd7 17.Kb1?!** [17.Rhe1 is more forcing] **17...Ne5 19.Rhe1 Re8 20.Ba4 Re7 21.h4 Ng6 22.Rd4 Rc7 23.Bb3 e5** fine play by Duda. His king is in the center but the pawns there control important square **Nxh4! 25.Re8 Ng6 26.Re6+ Kg5 27.Bc2 h4 28.Re3** The game has gotten to a critical point. Shakh is attacking in the endgame. Black should be bette to play against the white onslaught **28...e4 29.Nxf5**



29...Kxf5 30.R3xe4 Rxc2 31.Kxc2 Bc5?! [31...Rh7 would keep the advantage for Black, the bishop and knight being more powerful that the white roo

33.f4+! Nxf4 34.R6e5+ Kxg4 35.Rxc5 White has won the bishop. Black has counterplay based on the dangerous h-pawn **35...Kf3 36.Rb4 h3?** [36...N Black in the game. Now this knight gets pinned.] **37.Rc3+ Kg4 38.Rcc4! Rf8** Black had to go on the defensive. Shakh wraps it up now **39.Rxb7 h2 40 41.Kb3** Duda can't find any way to unravel and help the h-pawn. He resigned **1-0**

Solution to Tony's Teaser

Submit your piece or feedback

We would welcome any feedback, articles or "Letter to the Editor" piece. Submit yours today through this Google Form:

https://forms.gle/eLfUyg2yFZ3vxgcMA

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Fri	12 - 6	11 - 5	8 - 6
Sat	10 - 3	Closed	Closed
Sun	Closed	Closed	Closed
Mon	12 - 6	11 - 5	8 - 6
Tue	12 - 6	11 - 5	8 - 6

Upcoming Events

Virtual Tour of the Mechanics' Institute
Wednesday, July 20, 2022 - 12:00pm to 1:00pm

Listen to Your Next Book!
Wednesday, July 20, 2022 - 6:30pm to 7:30pm

Write If You Dare!
Thursday, July 21, 2022 - 11:00am

Sacred Mountains of the World -- VIRTUAL ON ZOOM
Thursday, July 21, 2022 - 6:00pm

Mechanics' Institute
57 Post Street
San Francisco, CA 94104

[parking map]